IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Hoeffler, et al. Examiner Cook Lisa V Appl. Ser. No. 09/245.615 Art Unit: 1641 § Filed: February 4, 1999 Atty. Dkt. No: IVGN 274.1 § Title: MICROARRAYS AND USES Confirmation No.: 5087

THEREFOR

§ § 8

AMENDMENT/RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION OF MARCH 19, 2008 SUBMITTED WITH RCE

Mail Stop: RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed March 19, 2008 in the above-captioned matter, Applicant submits the following amendment and response, in which:

Changes to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper; and

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

The above-captioned application is presently on appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences ("Board"). As of today's date, January 15, 2009, Applicants hereby request that the Board withdraw the appeal.

Concurrently, Applicants hereby request that prosecution of the instant application be reopened pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(d), and submit herewith a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) -Form PTO/SB/30EFS under 37 C.F.R. §1.114. The RCE is accompanied by a response to the last outstanding Office Action and the corresponding fee set forth under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e). It is believed that this RCE is proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, as it is filed after the filing of a Notice of Appeal but prior to the filing of an Appeal Brief. Amendments and Remarks accompanying this RCE are responsive to the last outstanding Office Action (mailed March, 2008) within the meaning of 37 C.F.R. § 1.111.